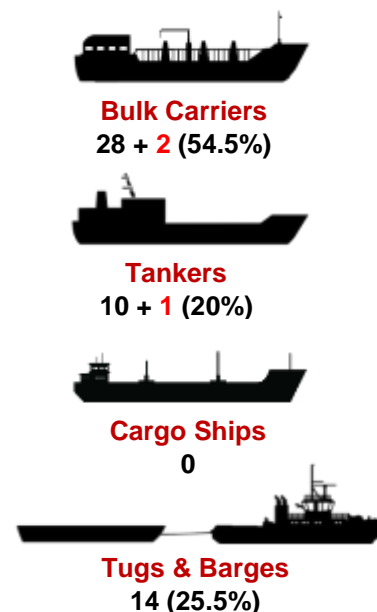
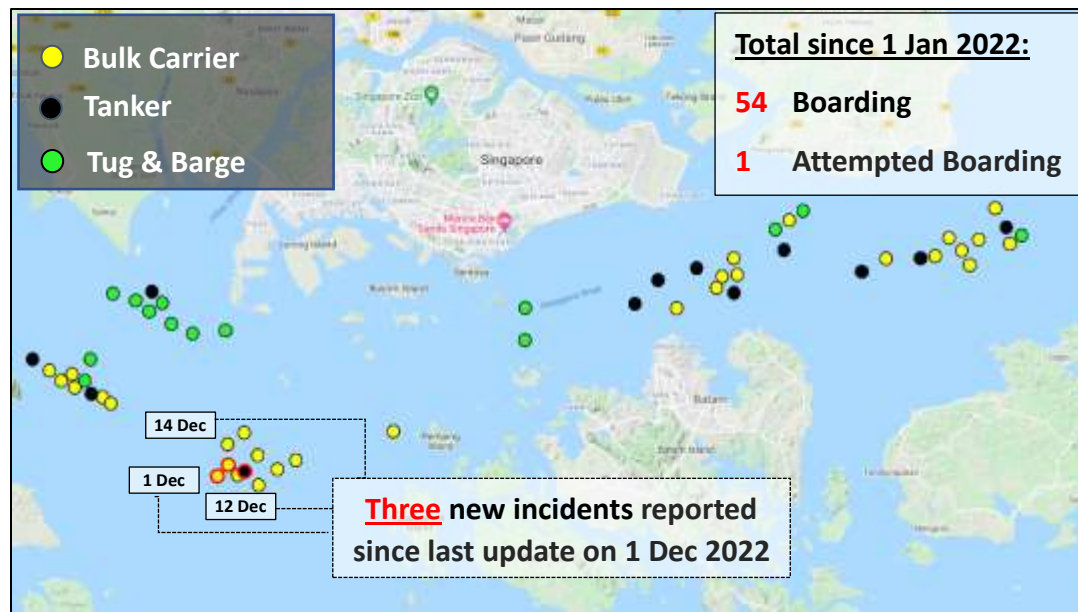


# Summary of Boarding and Attempted Boarding Incidents in the Singapore Strait (caa 01 Jan 2023)

## Number of Incidents & Vessel Types



## Key Observations and Assessments

- There were three new incidents, and all took place in the Phillip Channel, Singapore Strait. Of note, the incidents in the Phillip Channel have continued to persist since Oct 2022.
- In two of the three incidents, perpetrators were reportedly armed with small knives. In two incidents, perpetrators fled immediately upon being sighted with no injuries to the crew. Of note, in one incident, a crew member was reportedly tied up during a confrontation, but was unharmed.
- All the incidents occurred in hours of darkness (between 2100H to 0400H), and in the vicinity where transiting vessels tend to slow down to alter course, making them more vulnerable to opportunistic attacks.

## Modus Operandi: Remains Largely Consistent With Petty Crime

- Based on incident reports this year, in most cases, perpetrators avoided confrontation, and fled immediately upon being sighted by crew. Most vessels also reported nothing stolen.
- Perpetrators are usually unarmed, and in group of up to 7 pax, and they use small boats to target slow-moving vessels (7-12 knots) with low freeboard.

Cargo Ships, Bulk Carriers & Tankers	Tugs & Barges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>May</u> be armed and confrontational e.g., small arms, knives, and steel bars (<i>Out of 55 incidents since Jan 2022, 15 reported armed and 4 reported with confrontation</i>)</li> <li>Usually target ship's engine parts and stores</li> <li>Same group of perpetrators may target few vessels in succession, in same night</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Usually unarmed</li> <li>Usually target scrap metal</li> <li>Could be targeted in both daylight and hours of darkness</li> </ul>

## Recommended Actions for All Transiting Vessels

- Remain vigilant, particularly when transiting the areas of concern in the Phillip Channel, and off Bintan and Batam.
- Adopt Ship Protection Measures recommended in the Regional Guide 2 to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia, e.g., (1) turn on weather deck lighting around the accommodation block and rear facing lighting on the poop deck, (2) maintain an all-round lookout at an elevated position with focus on suspicious small craft(s) approaching or in proximity to the ship's aft, and (3) sound ship's alarm when suspicious small craft(s) sighted
- To guard against successive boarding attempts by perpetrators, transiting vessels are encouraged to stay informed and participate in Voluntary Community Reporting as depicted in 4<sup>th</sup> Edition MARSEC Charts Q6112 and Q6113; upon sighting of suspicious activities, immediately report to local authorities and inform the IFC